

REMARKS

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 11 and 12 are pending in this application, the only independent claim being claim 11. By this Amendment, claims 1-10 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, and claims 11 and 12 are newly presented.

SUMMARY OF ACTION

In the Official Action, claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,649,032 (Burt), and claims 3, 5 and 7 variously were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as unpatentable over the Burt '032 patent in view of one of U.S. Patent No. 5,623,681 (Rivette), U.S. Patent No. 5,786,904 (Narita) and U.S. Patent No. 5,822,499 (Okada).

Reconsideration a withdrawal of the rejections respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The rejections of the claims over the prior art respectfully are traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, claims 1-10 have been cancelled in favor of newly presented claims 11 and 12, which have been added to provide Applicant with an additional scope of protection commensurate with the disclosure. Support for the claimed invention may be found in the original application, e.g., in Figs. 10 and 13 and the corresponding written description. No new matter has been added.

CLAIMED INVENTION

The present invention relates to a novel digital camera. In one aspect, as recited in independent claim 11, the claimed invention relates to a digital camera comprising an optical lens, an image sensor that generates image data for an image formed on the image sensor by the optical lens, a memory that stores the image data for a plurality of images, a display that

displays the image data and print instruction information, the print instruction information including a print instruction for printing a plurality of images per one sheet, a selector that selects the print instruction for printing a plurality of images per one sheet, and a terminal that transfers the image data, as selected by the selector, to an external printer.

Applicant submits that the prior art fails to anticipate the claimed invention. Moreover, Applicant submits that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

In particular, Applicant submits that the prior art fails to disclose or suggest a digital camera comprising at least the features of a display that displays print instruction information including a print instruction for printing a plurality of images per one sheet and a selector that selects the print instruction for printing a plurality of images per one sheet, as disclosed in the present application and recited in claim 11, or the feature in which such a print instruction selected by the selector effects transmission of image data for a plurality of images directly from a terminal of the camera to an external printer, as disclosed in the present application and recited in claim 12.

For the above reasons, Applicant submits that claims 11 and 12 are allowable over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the subject application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

Mario A. Costantino
Registration No. 33,565

Christopher Philip Wrist
Registration No. 32,078

MAC:CPW/eks

Date: June 27, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
